Gerda Roze Painter and Printmaker

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New York artist Gerda Roze was born in Riga, Latvia (1925) and came to the United States in 1950. A painter, printmaker and constructionist, she earned her Bachelor Degree in Sociology from Columbia University in 1960, and began her formal art training with Sid Dickinson at the Art Students League and studied Art History at New York University.

Independently, she studied painting at the Chelsea College of Art in London, England and printmaking with Pratt Institute at the Scoula Internazionale di Graphica in Venice, Italy. Among her most influential art teachers were Donald Pierce, Harriet FeBland, Roberto de Lamonica and Clare Romano. Her works have been widely exhibited since the early 1970's, including 15 solo shows. Many of her paintings, prints and constructions are represented in corporate and private collections in the USA and abroad, including two monotypes in the collection of the Latvian National Museum (Arsenals) in Riga and one painting in the Valmiera Museum "The World Center for Latvian Art". She is listed in "Who is Who of American Women" (1977/ 1978), "The Encyclopedia of Latvian Art and Architecture" (1995/1996) and inducted in "The Archives of the Art Academy of Latvia" in 1995.

Other professional activities include: National League of American Pen Women, Past President (1984-1992); American Society of Contemporary Artists, Past Treasurer (1990-1998); National Association of Women Artists; New York Society of Women Artists, Present Treasurer and Juror; Mamaroneck Artists' Guild, Past Treasurer (8 years), Gallery Assoc. Director (5 years), Present Advisory Board and Juror, American Latvian Artists Association, Board Member.

Artist's Statement

"There is an ever burning desire in me to create. Every new canvas is a beginning full of excitement, expectations and hope for successful results. I don't despair when success eludes me, as long as I know I had given my very best, and go on from there. Art has given meaning to my life. I am a painter.

Non-objective abstractions have ruled my artistic creations since the mid-1970's. It is a highly personal artistic expression which almost requires "an act of faith" on part of the viewer to accept pure form and color as subject matter as well as style."